

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, April 25.

Senator Palmer, probably with the belief that it is time for "some good Western man" to make his bow to the political public, has added to the already complicated Presidential situation by his casting into the ring as a full-fledged candidate, and announcing his intention to fight for the control of the Illinois delegation. The action is regarded by the Hon. William R. Morrison and his friends, who claim a bargain had been made with Palmer to allow the State to go to Cleveland, as a breach of faith, and they threaten to make it warm for Palmer, but the Senator claims that he already has a majority of the delegates to the State Convention pledged to him.

It is very seldom that a Senator or member makes two set speeches in a single week, but Senator Teller did it during the past week, his first speech being a highly sensational one, charging the defeat of the Free-Coinage Bill in the House to the Administration and a lobby—the strongest he has known in his public life—maintained by the money power of the world, which he said had combined against silver; and his second speech, delivered on Saturday, was in favor of the House Chinese Exclusion Bill. He took no stock in the argument that the bill would violate a treaty, because he believes it is in the power of Congress at any time to legislate any treaty or part of a treaty out of existence. This theory was supported by Senator Sherman and opposed by Senators Sherman and Hancock. It is expected that the Senate will dispose of this bill during the present week.

Odd happenings appear to be the rule in Congress, at least things that appear ordinary folk are continually occurring there. It was odd, and spoke volumes for Congressional accuracy, to hear Senator Sherman and Dolph disputing upon the date of the expiration of the recent Anti-Chinese Law, Mr. Sherman naming 1894, and Mr. Dolph May, 1892. It was odd to hear Senator Chandler state bluntly the purpose of the Senate was to annul an existing treaty with China, and justify it on the ground that it would be a second violation; it was odd to hear some Senator criticize the Administration because of its treatment of Senator Blair's case. It was odd to hear Senator Davis of Minnesota say that there was more danger to this country from European than from Chinese immigration, and go into details concerning the futile attempt of certain Europeans to use the Catholic Church to foment a dissension in this country against the establishment of separate parishes among foreign-born citizens in charge of priests of the same nationality.

It was odd to see the manner in which Senator Hill succeeded in getting Democrats in the House to vote against the report of the Election Committee, which is controlled by Democrats, and retain Representative Rockwell of New York in the seat to which the committee had said he was not entitled. It was odd to hear Representative Ferrall, Chairman of the Election Committee, talk like this: "I do not believe around labelled I am a Democrat. It is charged I am warped in my opinion because I prefer a certain man as the next Democratic nominee for President. I suppose as an American citizen I have a right to express a choice. I prefer a great big man who is a lion, and not a fox. I prefer a man who stands out before the party head and shoulders above every other Democrat; a man who knows no South, no East, no West; a man who knows one people; a man whose home is in the United States—the President and grand Grover Cleveland of the State of New York." Now were these things odd?

The Alliance Congressmen all voted against the sitting member—Rockwell—the House contested election case, and shows they do not wear Hill's hat notwithstanding reports of his being to make himself solid with the party.

Reports have been current for several weeks that the Administration had contemplated arrangements for the holding of an international monetary conference, and the Senate, evidently wishing to say something about it, has adopted a resolution calling upon the President for information on the subject and for copies of all correspondence with governments invited to participate in such conference. It is regarded as significant that at the suggestion of Senator Sherman the resolution was amended by adding "if not compatible with the public interests."

A national silver convention has been called to meet in this city May 26 and 27.

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The new and beautiful Spring and Summer Dress Materials here are a sight to see, and our prices will surely suit you.

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